



St. Mark Lutheran Church
3307 State Street
Eau Claire, WI 54701



August 2022

I was glad when they said to me:
“Let us go to the house
of the Lord.” – Psalm 122:1

August worship opportunities...

Sundays @ 8:00 a.m. (Livestream via Facebook or at www.stmark-wels.org, under “Watch Sermons Online.”)
Sundays @ 10:00 a.m.
Mondays @ 6:30 p.m.

Contact Us

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- Pastor Naumann: 715-214-7880, joel@stmark-wels.org
- Pastor Hollmann: 715-523-3728, michael@stmark-wels.org
- Secretary Ashley Yang: barb@stmark-wels.org

School Phone: 715-834-5782 | Fax: 715-834-7668

- Principal Micheel: 715-835-6015, peter@smwels.org
- Mr. Biebert: 715-456-9557, chris@smwels.org
- Mr. Sponholz: 715-835-0213, scott@smwels.org
- Mrs. Seipel: 651-210-5326, marie@smwels.org
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- Mrs. Smith: 701-541-3169, ksmith@smwels.org
- Mrs. Krouse



August 2022
AT A GLANCE

- 2nd – Women’s Bible Study
- 2nd – Board Meetings
- 9th – Church Council
- 11th – Blood Drive
- 21st– Installation Service for Mrs. Krouse
- 23rd– Opening Service for St. Mark Lutheran School
- 28th– Barb Krass’ retirement party

THE ATHANASIAN CREED

³⁶ [Our Lord Jesus Christ] suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead. ³⁷ He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and from there will come to judge the living and the dead. ³⁸ At his coming all people will rise with their own bodies to answer for their personal deeds. ³⁹ Those who have done good will enter eternal life, but those who have done evil will go into eternal fire. ⁴⁰ This is the true Christian faith. Whoever does not faithfully and firmly believe this cannot be saved.

– The Athanasian Creed: 36-40

This devotion is part of a continuing series on the three ecumenical creeds.

This final section of the Athanasian creed describes historical events that we confess week in and week out in our Apostles’ and Nicene creeds. While the preceding paragraphs of the Athanasian Creed have pointed out who Jesus is (an essential article to believe and confess for our salvation), the creed now speaks about what Jesus *did*. He lived, suffered and died, descended into hell in triumph and victory, rose from the grave, and ascended to heaven at the right hand of God the Father—a position of power he holds throughout the universe. All this he did and does *for you*, and through faith in Jesus’ redeeming work you receive the forgiveness of sins he won in death. Because of his resurrection, you have the confidence of bodily resurrection to eternal life. After all, because Jesus lives, you will live! (John 14:19)

But the Athanasian Creed speaks a little more specifically about the day of Judgment. On that final day—known only to God the Father—Christ will return in glory with his angels and all people who have ever lived will rise with their bodies (Daniel 12, 1 Thessalonians 4). Then judgment will come. And as the Athanasian Creed rightly points out, those who have “done good” will enter eternal life. Those who have “done evil” will go into eternal fire.

“Wait!” you say, “I thought salvation is *by grace through faith* — not what we have “done” or “not done!”

It is! You’re right! In fact, if anyone would say that salvation has to do with one of our works or *any* of our powers, abilities, or worth, that person would be preaching against the truths of the Bible, which states that “a person is justified by faith without the works of the

St. Mark's Lutheran School – Another Year with Jesus!

The teachers are actively preparing for the 2022-2023 School Year at St. Mark. As we prepare for this coming school year, we thank God that he is blessing us with a growing enrollment at our school. We closed the 2021-2022 school year with 108 students and are expecting 132 students this fall. "God is Awesome" is our theme for the coming school year. (Psalm 145:6) We trust our Triune God to keep us faithful to our school's mission. *The mission of St. Mark Lutheran School is to assist parents, both in the congregation and community, in providing their children a Christ-centered education, preparing them for life with the Savior here on earth and eternally in heaven.*

Here are a few highlights as we begin a new year:

- New Teacher - We welcome our new teacher, Mrs. Melody Krouse. She will teach our 22 1st-Grade students this year.
- Full Day Kindergarten - This fall will be the first time that St. Mark offers our families the option of either full-day or half-day Kindergarten.
- Updated Interactive Flat Panels - St. Mark obtained the new interactive flat panels last school year, but this summer the Board of Technology and Buildings and Grounds removed the old Smartboards, repaired the drywall, and painted to spruce up the classrooms in our school.
- Updated bathroom facilities - The Buildings and Grounds have remodeled and updated our restroom facilities, and they look quite sharp.
- Back to School Party - On Sunday, August 14, from 6:00-8:00 PM, St. Mark will celebrate a Back to School Party at the Dells Pavilion at Mt. Simon with pizza and root beer floats.
- New Family / Mentor Picnic - On Wednesday, August 24, St. Mark will host a New Family / Mentor Family picnic at 5:30 PM. With the growing enrollment, we are adding 18 new school families and will assign each family with an experienced school family to mentor them during their first year in our school.

— Principal Peter Micheel

We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done. (Psalm 78:4b)



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AUGUST 9: REGISTRATION FOR ST. MARK LUTHERAN SCHOOL — If you as a St. Mark member are still interested in sending your children to St. Mark this year, there is always room for you! Contact Principal Peter Micheel (peter@smwels.org) to reserve your spot.

AUGUST 11: ST. MARK BLOOD DRIVE — From 12 noon thru 6 p.m. Thursday, in the Shaker center (gymnasium). Sign up online at RedCrossBlood.org, search for St Mark drive. If you have any questions contact Pat Culver. Spots are filling up fast!

AUGUST 21: INSTALLATION FOR MRS. MELODY KROUSE — On Sunday, August 21, St. Mark congregation will install Melody Krouse as its teacher for grade 1 at St. Mark's Lutheran School in the 8:00 a.m. service. Please be sure to attend so that we can introduce ourselves and support Mrs. Krouse in her service to the Jesus among our children and children in the community.

St. Mark Ministry Highlights

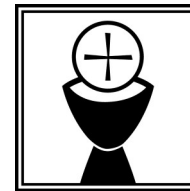
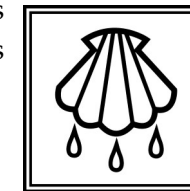
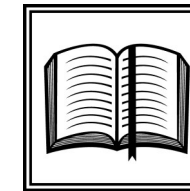
Public Use of the Means of Grace:

Worship: We averaged 257 worshipers per weekend in June The Lord's Supper was administered to 397 in June. Membership stands at 788 souls and 590 communicants.

Other Official Acts:

Membership Actions: We welcome Brandon and Jocelyn Knuth along with their children Legend, Lennox, Lyric Myers and Loyal Knuth by Profession of Faith.

We release to their own spiritual care: Tanya, Tanner, Austin, Santana and Antonio Aguilar, Kurt, Jessica and Kaylyne Heimstead, Chad Johnson, Steve, Karley, Quintin and Eden Kvapil, Kodye Shier and Sara Sonsalla



law" (Romans 3:28).

Yet why then confess that there is salvation for those who "do good" and damnation for those who "do evil"? Well, they are the same words our Lord Jesus used to describe the event of Judgment Day: "[A] time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and will come out. Those who have done good will rise to live, but those who have practiced evil will rise to be condemned" (John 5:28,29). Jesus is not promoting a "salvation by your good deeds" kind of mindset. On the contrary, he says in John 5:24, that "Anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He is not going to come into judgment but has crossed over from death to life" (John 5:24).

So, those who "do good" are ones who "believe" and have life! To *believe* is to do the work of God! Jesus himself said so. (John 6:29) Yet even then, God's Word beautifully takes the pressure off us in describing *how* we come to believe: It has nothing to do with us. Rather, faith (belief) comes through hearing the message of God (Romans 10:17). And, by God's undeserved love, he "makes you alive" (Ephesians 2:5) through that gospel message in the spoken Word and the sacraments! By these means of grace he has changed your heart and placed eternal life into your lap—a precious treasure to be guarded and kept forever and ever, never to be taken from you.

Yes, that final day you will be seen as a "do-gooder." Not because of anything you had ever done, but because of everything the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have done for you! They've preserved you, body and soul; they've redeemed you; they've brought you to faith. And they *will* take you to be with them forever. Count on it. Confess it! - Pastor Hollmann



CORNERSTONE LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE — Cornerstone Lutheran High School is set to open its doors in Chippewa Falls in the fall of 2023. So far, the high school has a federation consisting of four churches: St. Mark (Eau Claire), St. Paul's (Menomonie), St. Paul (Bloomer), and Our Hope (Chippewa Falls). The federation plans to call a principal / administrative director this October who will begin his full-time service in July '23.

AUGUST 23: OPENING SERVICE FOR ST. MARK LUTHERAN SCHOOL — Please join us for worship in the sanctuary at 8:45 a.m. on August 23 for the opening worship service. We will go to our Lord in thanksgiving and prayer, making his love, life, death, and resurrection for us the focus of our entire year, day in and day out.

AUGUST 28: RETIREMENT CELEBRATION FOR BARB KRASS — Please join us on Sunday, August 28 from 9-11 a.m. to celebrate Barb Krass' retirement as our Church and School Secretary. Barb has selflessly given 18 years of love and service to St. Mark and we are so very grateful for her and how she has impacted each of our lives. Please come show your appreciation on August 28 to wish Barb well and enjoy some light morning snacks. * If you would like to donate a breakfast food item for the party, please sign up outside the church office.